Member.—About 20,000 to 30,000 acres are in the hands of Europeans and about 21,000 to 23,000 in the hands of Indians.

Dewan's reply.—I was under the impression that the Mycologist's Station at Mundakayam had not yet been established, but I see from what you now say that the station is actually working. I should very much like to see it. I know that, although this Darbar and other Darbars like Mysore and Cochin are contributing to the maintenance of a Scientific Department under the Madras Government for the benefit of planters all over the country, rubber is not one of the things included within the operations of that Department. The Madras Government wished to include rubber and extend the usefulness of the Department, but owing to the intervention of the war and other circumstances and the impossibility of securing an expert, they have had to postpone their project, and the contributions of the Darbars have been correspondingly reduced temporarily. Seeing that you have a station actually working, and that the research work that is done there is not merely for the benefit of the members of your Association, but will benefit the Indian planters also, I shall examine the matter from that point of view, and I shall take the earliest opportunity to see the station actually at work.

(2) Other Industries.

52. Development of Industries.

Mr. K. Hussain Pillai (Member, Nominated) said that the material prosperity of a country depended entirely on the advancement of its agriculture and industries. By depending largely on foreigners for their articles of daily use, the people had given up all their ancient callings and had consequently lost considerably in their wealth. About 63 crores of rupees worth of clothing was being annually imported into India and Travancore alone was consuming nearly a crore. The Member suggested that one-half of the budgetted expenditure under education should be devoted to the development of industries. He proposed the following measures for the advancement of industries and for making the people self-supporting and independent in the matter of their ordinary requirements:—

1. Industrial schools should be established for imparting technical education in the vernaculars.

2. Model industrial institutions should be started in some important centres.

3. A central Depôt should be opened for the collection and sale of raw products to the public at low prices and also for the import and sale of foreign goods such as machinery, etc., useful for industrial purposes.

4. A central technological institute should be established.

5. It was not sufficient if scholars were sent to foreign countries for being trained in various branches of industries. Experts from Japan and other countries should be brought down to give practical training to young men here.

6. Means of communication should be improved in all parts of the country.

Dewan's reply.—There is no difference between you and the Government in the matter of the policy of development of industries. But Government are not able to proceed as fast as you would wish, for want of money and other facilities. All the suggestions made require money to carry out. As time goes on, however, we shall be able to advance steadily. You yourself admit that Government have realised the importance of industries. I do not agree with you in the view that the expenditure on general education is too much, and that one-half of the budgetted amount of 32 lakhs should be devoted to industrial education. There should be provision for general education in the first instance, and industrial education can only come next.

As for scholarships, they obtain even now. You are not perhaps in favour of the deputation of men to foreign countries for technical and industrial education. We may get down experts, but our men should also be sent abroad for industrial education. In the matter of communications, Government are doing all that is possible.

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